Modernisation of IISCO, Burnpur

369. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the modernisation programme of IISCO, Burnpur has been finalised;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of regular and contract workers are likely to be rendered surplus;

(c) if so, whether there is a proposal for redeployment of surplus staff; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Government have approved in principle the modernisation of Burnpur works of IISCO. The preliminary and preparatory works have already commenced. The investment decision wil be taken once estimates become available on submission of Engineering Services Study already commissioned.

(b) to (d) With the operation of modernised plant and phasing out of a number of uneconomical units of Burnpur works, some workers will become available for redeployment. A redeployment plan has been prepared involving training of workmen for modernised plant in the latest technology. The redeployment plan is in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding and agreement arrieved at between the Management of IISCO, Burnpur and representative trade unions of IISCO, Burnpur dated 12-7-89.

Production of aluminium

370. SHRI GOPALA RAO, RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of aluminium has increased in the country;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to contain the price hike of aluminium products in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From the year 1987-88 onwards the production of aluminium in the country is as under:

(Figures in tonnes)

Year	Production
1987-88 . .	2,78,000
1988-89 . .	3,57,000
1989-90 (estimated) . .	4,35,000

(c) with the progressive increase in production of aluminium mainly because of commissioning of the production facilities of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), the country is expected to be surplus in aluminium during the next few years. Government, therefore, decided to decontrol price and distribution of aluminium since 1-3-1989. With adequate availability of metal to meet the demand prices will be maintained at a reasonable level.

Import of edible oil

371. SHRI GOPALA RAO, RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible oil imported by Government during the

first six months of this year, monthwise;

(b) the quantity of edible oil distributed amongst the State Government during the same period;

(c) the criteria adopted for distribution of edible oil to the State; and

(d) the quantity of the edible oil allotted to Andhra Pradesh during the same period, month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The quantities of edible oil imported and distributed during the first six months of 1989 are as under:—

(Quantity in Metric Tonnes)

Month	Qty. imported	Qty. distributed
January, 1989	97,950	41,078
February, 1989	28,334	33,846
March, 1989	33,926	21,410
April,1989	24,964	22,031
May, 1989	Nil	22,272
June, 1989	Nil	18,500

(c) The imported edible oils are supplied to States/Union Territories under the Public Distribution System by the State Trading Corporation of India for its distribution through the Fair Price Shops and the co-operative network. The allocation of edible oils to the States/Union Territories is made on a monthly basis depending upon a number of factors, like demand of the States/ Union Territories, availability of oils with STC, availablity of indigenous oils in the open market and its prices thereof and the pace of lifting of edible oils by the States/Union Territories in the previous months.

(d) The quantity of edible oil allotted to Andhra Pradesh during the first six months of 1989 is as under:—

(Quantity in MTs)

Month	Quantity
January	2,800
February	2,800
March	2,200
April	1,000
May	1,000
June	1,000